THANK EVANS FOR AUBREY

TL 2240

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Dear fellow AETA friends, 17 November 1995

I am first and foremost a human rights activist for East Timor. I am also through this involvement the Australian Democrat candidate standing against Gareth Evans at the soon to be federal election. In the last two years three of my campaigns have gained national media splashes - 1) the Revoke Timor Gap Treaty Petition Campaign; 2) Jim Aubrey standing against Gareth Evans; 3) and the recent Young Australian Democrats Freedom & Justice Award for Xanana Gusmao, received by his wife Emilia and their daughter Zenilda in Melbourne.

My decision to join the Australian Democrats was not entered into lightly and was endorsed by East Timorese and activists alike including John Pilger. It is worth noting that some of the East Timorese have signed a memorandum of agreement with the Democrats.

I am sorry that I have not been able to dispatch a stream of progress reports. I only have a small team and you would not believe how busy I am and how much 'hands-on' work is necessary.

John Sinnot and I now enjoy a good relationship, (phew! and thanks Gil), and AETA - Melbourne is operating well. Generally I enjoy a good relationship with all and sundry except for the odd bigot who told me I should be a woman, (?), or the odd nose out of joint because I was not there in '75.

I have strong emotional support from the Democrats and the East Timorese but there is not financial support. Each Democrat must raise their own funds. **This campaign can only be a success but to what extent depends upon your generousity.** I've run out of money and I've run out of paper. I desperately need another $1,200 of recycled paper to continue the letter-boxing. It would be a tragedy in itself to be pipped at the post because of this.

In the last month alone I have talked on the highest rating radio programs - 1) straight after Alexander Downer 2) with Peter Couchman 3) in a talk-back debate with Kim Beazly - Aubrey 1 - Beazly 0.

With all of you wanting to see the fall from grace of Evans, surely it is not so much to ask you to pitch in a small donation to this very real opportunity to do just that - **kick the bastard out!!!** I need this help now - not when the election is called. Please do not hesitate. For AETA - Melbourne members please give me your help for polling day. Call me now on 0419-340-630.

with regards and in solidarity

Jim Aubrey